



605.01 Recognizing Symptoms

Number Series: 600 - Corrections Division

Sheriff's Approval: Digital

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605.01-1 Policy

- I. Detention Deputies and health care staff shall be trained to respond to health-related situations.
- II. The training program shall be established by the health care staff in cooperation with the Jail Administrator, or designee.
- III. Detention Deputies shall be trained in the proper procedures for handling emergency and non-emergency situations, and shall include the following:
 - A. Recognition of signs and symptoms and knowledge of action required in potential emergency situations.
 - B. Administration of first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).
 - C. Methods of obtaining assistance.
 - D. Signs and symptoms of mental illness, retardation, and chemical dependency.
 - E. Procedures for patient transfers to appropriate medical facilities or health care providers.

605.01-2 Medical Training for Jail Staff

Certified Detention Deputies shall receive the following training:

- I. Training to respond to health-related situations involving inmates shall be provided by health care services staff. The training is directed toward recognition of the signs and symptoms of potential emergency situations, procedures to be followed regarding how to respond, who to call, and what to do.
- II. First Aid and CPR training as defined by the American Red Cross and the American Heart Association is provided biennially, is coordinated by the Training Officer and performed by appropriately certified and highly trained HCSO members.
- III. Detention Deputies shall be trained to recognize signs and symptoms of chemical dependency, emotional and/or developmental distress, and mental retardation, suicide prevention and intervention, and mental health issues. This training is provided by health care services staff.
- IV. Safeguards for protection from infectious disease training are provided by health care staff.

605.01-3 Method of Obtaining Medical Assistance

- I. Upon determination of the need for emergency medical assistance, Detention Deputies shall announce the emergency and the incident location via "Radio." The alarm shall be repeated three times in succession. The Deputy shall also relay the alarm via alternative methods as necessary (phone, runner).
- II. For other health related incidents of a non-emergency nature, Control Deputies shall notify health care staff via telephone or runner.
- III. For non-emergency medical requests for sick call, inmates shall use Inmate Request/Grievance form.

605.01-4 Deputy Response to an Emergency

- I. In instances of potentially serious injuries or illness, health care staff or EMS will be advised to respond to the scene. The responding health care staff member or EMS shall determine movement of the inmate.
- II. Certified Deputies shall be trained in basic life safety techniques and CPR, and shall render assistance required until the arrival of health care staff, as Deputies' training allows.
- III. Determination for transfer of an inmate to a designated emergency facility and the need for ambulatory services will be made by the health care staff, when available, EMS, or the Shift Supervisor.
- IV. Deputies shall include as many details as possible when reporting an emergency in order for health care staff to be prepared when responding.
- V. When health care staff or EMS is called to the scene, inmates should be removed from the immediate area, or locked down, as appropriate. If lockdown is not possible, all efforts by Deputies must be made to ensure the safety of health care staff.

605.01-5 Healthcare Staff Response to an Emergency

- I. In the event of a medical emergency, health care staff will respond to the scene with the AED.
- II. The inmate will be stabilized at the scene if the situation requires, and then be transferred to the Medical Section for further treatment, or transferred to a designated emergency medical facility as determined to be appropriate.
- III. Determination for transfer of the inmate to a designated emergency facility and the need for ambulatory services will be made by health care staff, when available. In the absence of health care staff the Shift Supervisor will make the determination.
- IV. Deputies will not transport inmates to the hospital in Jail vehicles if the injury/illness is life threatening or if immediate medical attention is needed; 911 shall be contacted and EMS dispatched to the Jail.

605.1.6 Symptoms of Mental Illness, Retardation, and Chemical Dependency

- I. Jail staff shall constantly observe the inmate population for symptoms of mental illness, retardation, emotional disturbances, and chemical dependency. Health care services staff shall be advised immediately at the first sign of mental illness, retardation, or chemical dependency.
- II. The following are symptoms of mental illness, and the appropriate response:
 - A. Disorientation (does not know the date, where they are, or what is happening to them).

- B. Uncontrollable or inappropriate behavior (uncontrolled crying, anger, visions, or hallucinations).
- C. Engagement in self-mutilation.
- D. Delusions of persecution or grandeur with the rest of the personality remaining relatively intact.
- E. Constant attitude of suspicion and hostility.
- F. Intense anxiety or exaggerated levels of fear or panic in the absence of any real or present danger.
- G. Shallow, inappropriate emotional responses, silliness, bizarre delusions, unpredictable hollow giggling.
- H. Hallucinations such as hearing, seeing, tasting or smelling something or someone that is not present at the moment.
- I. Extreme depression, withdrawal, neglect of hygiene and appearance, refusal to eat, or leave the cell for long periods of time.
- J. Exaggerated mood swings, from elation and over-activity to depression and under-activity, or a combination or alternation of these.
- K. Response:
 - 1. Extra security and observation, immediately.
 - 2. Treat subject with firm, calm dignity.
 - 3. Immediate notification of mental health care staff. Report unusual behavior in detail to the contract health care staff and the Deputy's Supervisor.
- III. The following are symptoms of mental retardation, and the appropriate response:
 - A. Slowness and/or failure to understand instructions.
 - B. Withdrawn, does not interact with others.
 - C. Behavior is child-like or "untaught."
 - D. Poor memory, especially long-term.
 - E. May exhibit a less than normal ability for self-care, hygiene, etc.
 - F. Response:
 - 1. Use a kind, firm approach.
 - 2. Be concrete and explicit in giving instructions.
 - 3. Contact the mental health care staff and report observations for further assessment.
- IV. The following are symptoms of drug/alcohol withdrawal, and the appropriate response:
 - A. DT's (Delirium Tremens) - symptoms include acute anxiety, tremors, hallucinations, delusions, incoherence
 - B. Convulsions
 - C. Nausea
 - D. Abdominal cramps
 - E. Diarrhea
 - F. Change in pupil size
 - G. Slurred speech
 - H. Confusion
 - I. Response - Notify health care staff
- V. The following are symptoms of epilepsy, and the appropriate response:
 - A. Symptoms of minor seizure:
 - 1. Brief pause in speech
 - 2. Momentary disruption in thought process
 - 3. May exhibit some slight, brief confusion

4. Response - Notify health care staff or EMS
- B. Symptoms of major seizure:
 1. Spastic, jerking movements (may involve one limb, or entire body)
 2. May produce excretion from mouth
 3. Unresponsive
 4. Response:
 - a. Protect from injury - lay victim on floor away from furniture, etc., and cushion head to protect from injury
 - b. Turn head to one side so excretions will drain out of mouth
 - c. Do not attempt to restrain or control movements
 - d. Notify health care staff or EMS
- VI. The following are symptoms of a heart attack, and the appropriate response:
 - A. Pains in chest, may radiate to left arm or jaw
 - B. Difficulty in breathing
 - C. Poor coloring
 - D. Profuse perspiring
 - E. High anxiety
 - F. May be unconscious
 - G. Heartbeat, breathing may have stopped
 - H. Response:
 1. If conscious:
 - a. Provide assurance of assistance.
 - b. Position to assist breathing by lying down with upper trunk and head elevated.
 - c. Notify health care staff or EMS.
 2. If unconscious:
 - a. Check for heartbeat and breathing. If absent, call for assistance; start CPR immediately.
 - b. Notify health care staff or EMS to respond to scene.

REFERENCES

State/Federal Regulations:

Florida Model Jail Standards

American Red Cross and American Heart Association (CPR and First Aid)

FCAC:

N/A

PREA:

N/A

Forms:

Inmate Request/Grievance

Other Policy/ Procedure References:

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